

## Chemists of Courage

Current ACS President Donna J. Nelson has proposed that a series of videos be created presenting the stories of chemists who showed great courage in the course of their scientific work. As a first step in this process, she requests that members of HIST send her nominations ( [djnelson@ou.edu](mailto:djnelson@ou.edu) ). The people can be historical or living (include short biographical details). Then she can pick the ones she wants to feature in a symposium at an ACS meeting in 2017. She requests the following information by August 1, 2016:

1. Name of nominee and work in chemical sciences
2. The action for which the person is nominated
3. What the person risked (life, career, reputation) and details of how it was put at risk.
4. Information about nominator – Name, contact info, relationship to nominee

As an example of a short nomination, please find below one for Paul John Flory.

Paul John Flory (1910-1985) (Stanford) (Nobel 1974) Physical chemist who was a pivotal figure in the history of polymer science. He served as the leading human rights advocate at the US National Academy of Sciences. He frequently intervened at the international level to liberate scientists and their families from oppression behind the Iron Curtain. He volunteered to serve as a hostage so that Yelena Bonner (wife of Andrei Sakharov) could come to the West for medical care.

Nominator: Gary Patterson (Carnegie Mellon) [gp9a@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:gp9a@andrew.cmu.edu) : Student of Flory at Stanford and current biographer (*Paul John Flory: A Life of Science and Friends*)

Gary Patterson  
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Please copy Gary on your submissions

If the symposium is a success, President Nelson will move forward with the videos.